

*Migrants
Health*

RURAL HEALTH
AND
EDUCATION CENTERS

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"A COMMUNITY PROJECT"
FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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RURAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE, INC.
Chairman: Mr. Tom L. O'Neill, a grower
Five Points, California

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Mr. Tom L. O'Neill, Chairman
Rural Health and Education Committee, Inc.

C O M M I T T E E R E P O R T

on

RURAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION CENTERS

FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

(Reported March 30, 1951)

FOR MANY YEARS THE PROBLEMS OF THE MIGRATORY WORKER HAVE BEEN OF CONCERN TO CIVIC-MINDED CITIZENS OF FRESNO COUNTY. COMMUNITY GROUPS INCLUDING THE FRESNO COUNTY COORDINATING COUNCIL, THE CITY AND COUNTY OF THE PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AND THE FRESNO COUNTY INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE HAVE STUDIED THE PROBLEM TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE IN THE WAY OF COMMUNITY ACTION.

AS EARLY AS DECEMBER 1949, CONFERENCES WERE BEING CALLED TO CONSIDER WHAT COMMUNITY ACTIONS COULD BE UNDERTAKEN. UPPERMOST IN ALL RECOMMENDATIONS WERE THE NEED FOR: DECENTRALIZED HEALTH CARE, COMMUNITY AGENCIES TO WORK TOGETHER AS TEAMS, AND ADEQUATE DAY CARE FOR CHILDREN OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS. COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS WERE DESIGNATED AS THE AGENCY TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN HELPING TO COORDINATE THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM. A STRONG PLEA WAS MADE THAT THE WORKERS BE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PLANNING.

DURING THE YEAR 1950 THE REALIZATION OF THE HIGH DIARRHEA INFANT MORTALITY RATE AMONG THESE PEOPLE BROUGHT THE PROBLEM INTO SHARP FOCUS. THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE EFFORT OF COMMITTEES OF THESE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES, REPRESENTATIVES OF NUMEROUS FRESNO COUNTY COMMUNITY GROUPS AND SOCIAL AGENCIES, AND THE RANCH OWNERS, A LARGE SCALE STUDY HAS BEEN MADE THIS PAST YEAR.

Fresno County, located in the center of the San Joaquin Valley, has a unique farm situation characterized by having a number of ranches each of which comprises several thousand acres of rich farm land. Each ranch owner, in order to operate, employs several hundred workers. The workers are housed in small cabins or tents on the ranch and the only community these workers know is the camp. Many workers stay the entire year, while some move from one area to another following crop harvests. Each year many babies in these camps die from diarrhea but until the summer of 1950, no definite study was made of the conditions causing this illness. At that time the California State Department of Public Health requested assistance for a Diarrheal Study from the United States Public Health Services. Dr. James Watt, a national authority on diarrhea, was assigned to assist the San Joaquin Counties Health Departments in a research project to determine the causes and carriers of the ailment.

In order that the study be started, the Fresno County Health Department, under the direction of Dr. William F. Stein, and the corps of Public Health Nurses under the leadership of Miss Winifred Irskine began surveys in the various camps. The Public Health Nurse serving an area gathered together a few of the camp mothers at each camp and presented the problems entailed in making surveys. The mothers became a working committee and soon were known as the Public Health Committee of the camp in which they lived. This process of committee formation was followed in twenty six camps.

The Public Health Committees then received instructions from Dr. Watt for helping in the Diarrheal Survey and history taking program for their particular camp. A cabin in each camp was set up as temporary clinic headquarters and each family was assigned a time for immunization. Dr. Watt was present at each clinic and did rectal cultures on each child under ten years of age. As the families appeared, the Public Health Committee helped list cases needing medical attention such as crippled children, pregnancy, apparent malnutrition etc. The committee also helped in the cabin to cabin visitation to get health history and history of family illnesses, especially diarrhea, for Dr. Watt's research.

As the diarrhea survey progressed, it became apparent that finding the solution to the Agricultural Workers' problems would entail educational and social changes as well as medical help. In viewing the reports made of progress by the Public Health Committees in the various camps, the Public Health Nurses indicated that unusual interest and enthusiasm was being shown by the committee at the Frank Coit Camp in Mendota, with the result that this group was therefore chosen as a Pilot Committee to further study the needs of theirs and other farm communities.

The Coit Public Health Committee continued on an active basis through the summer of 1950. In the fall, much concern was expressed by the Public Health Committee members and by Mr. Frank Coit over children being taken to the harvest fields. These children, from fourteen-day old babies to eight and ten year old children, would be locked in the family car or put down under scant shade in flies and filth to stay the entire day. Often no liquids and little food were given to the children. Dehydration and diarrhea resulted and often death followed fast upon these conditions. Then the Public Health Committee and Mr. Coit began questioning what educational facilities to help alleviate these conditions were available for people living in agricultural communities.

Mrs. Kathryn Roney, the Public Health Nurse from the Mendota area, and Miss Winifred Erskine, in response to this request, invited representatives from various community agencies of Fresno to meet with the Coit Public Health Committee. The representatives invited at various times were:

Mrs. Bernice Lynn, Consultant State Dept. of Social Welfare
Mrs. Irene Brouse, Director of Nursing Services, American
Red Cross, Fresno Chapter.
Miss Gertrude Lauche, Home Advisor, Agricultural Extension
Service
Mrs. Edith B. Storey, Director, Fresno Child Care Centers.

Each representative described in detail, the available services of his own agency which could be applied to improve home and living conditions in agricultural communities. As these representatives talked and planned with the Public Health Committee, the ever present desire was that the agricultural areas have the same educational opportunities that urban areas have.

The Red Cross was able to immediately start the Home Nursing and Baby Care Courses and a First Aid Class was given to the men. The Agricultural Extension Service called in a Home Management Specialist from the University of California and plans were drawn up for a building to be built on the Coit Ranch. The plans called for a multi-purpose building with space for class rooms and recreation--cooking, choice of foods, and clothing construction and selection, were some of the proposed classes.

The Public Health Committee and Mr. Coit were invited to visit the State Child Care Centers in Fresno. A need was felt for a comparable program for agricultural workers' children. This program would care for children over two years of age, who at present are being taken to the fields. Application was then made by the Mendota School District to the State Department of Education for such a center to be located on the Coit Ranch.

As these plans were developing great concern was shown by the camp mothers on the Coit Public Health Committee over the infant mortality due to the lack of proper care of infants while the mothers worked. The Department of Social Welfare was asked for advice on caring for these infants. This department recommended that every form of parent education and medical advice be used before attempting group care of infants under two years of age.

Mr. J. E. O'Neill and Mr. Tom O'Neill at Five Points, and Mr. Russell Giffen at Huron, all large ranch owners, became interested in having additional health and educational facilities for their workers. The Public Health Nurses from these areas had continued working with their Public Health Committees and were asking for help and suggestions from the American Red Cross, the Agricultural Extension Service and the Child Care Centers, and Social Welfare. Mr. Tom O'Neill redecorated and remodeled a barracks building which had been used as an apartment. This building was to be used as the Health Center on the Tom O'Neill Ranch. Mr. O'Neill welcomed agricultural workers from adjacent ranches to use the Health Center. Early in March 1951, the first well baby clinic was held on this ranch. The building is being used by the Agricultural Extension Service also.

Mr. J. E. O'Neill has a barracks building which he plans to remodel as a Child Care Center, and a Health Clinic, with class rooms for the Agricultural Extension and Red Cross work.

To summarize, it is important to remember that there are great distances between these ranches and many people are involved. While enthusiasm has carried each ranch Public Health Committee forward there is now great need both for a trained person to integrate the educational activities for Child Care and Parent Education in the Agricultural Workers Public Centers and for financial assistance to put the program into operation. The purpose of this request for financial aid, which cannot be met through local resources, is hereby set forth:

PURPOSE:

To aid in the establishment of Agricultural Workers' Public Centers on isolated ranch communities in Fresno County where fifty or more families live.

To provide ranch workers and their children health, educational and public services comparable to those provided in urban areas.

To encourage and development of year round employment for such workers.

To stimulate the cooperation between growers and workers in eliminating health hazards.

To help ranch workers and their families to understand their rights and responsibilities as good citizens.

In order to best use available community services, a team of resource people and a committee of citizens have been formed. The team will serve as consultants to the program for Rural Health and Education Centers. Its members are:

Mrs. Irene Brouse, Director of Nursing Services, Fresno Branch,
American Red Cross

Miss Winifred Erskine, Director, Public Health Nurses, Fresno
County Health Department

Miss Gertrude Lauche, Home Advisor, Agricultural Extension

Mrs. Edith B. Storey, Director, Child Care Centers, Fresno.

A committee, composed of local citizens who are acquainted with the problems of Fresno County agricultural area, was also formed. This committee will try to mobilize all public and private resources to be used in the rural centers. The committee anticipates legal incorporation.

FROM THIS DETAILED DESCRIPTION IT IS APPARENT THAT LOCAL AGENCIES, PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES AND RAUCH OWNERS HAVE TOGETHER LAID THE GROUND WORK FOR A SOUND EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH PROGRAM. CONTINUATION AND ENLARGEMENT OF THIS PROGRAM SHOULD CONTRIBUTE NOT ONLY TO IMPROVED LIVING CONDITIONS BUT SHOULD HELP ELIMINATE SOME OF THE HIGH INFANT MORTALITY. HOWEVER, THE WORK CAN PROGRESS LITTLE FURTHER WITHOUT OUTSIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

(MRS.) EDITH B. STOREY, RECORDER

READ AND APPROVED BY:
MRS. IRENE BROUSE
MISS WINIFRED ERSKINE
MISS GERTRUDE LAUCHE
MRS. EDITH B. STOREY
TEAM MEMBERS

THE FOLLOWING REPORTS ARE SUBMITTED BY A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH OF THE VARIOUS COMMUNITY AGENCIES. THESE REPORTS MAY REACH BACK OF THE INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS ABOVE AND COVER ACTIVITIES UNTIL FEBRUARY 1952.

IN EACH INSTANCE THE AGENCY REPORT INDICATES IN WHAT DIRECTION THAT AGENCY HAS DIRECTED ITS EFFORTS.

THERE IS SOME DUPLICATION OF EFFORT BUT THE TEAM MEMBERS HAVE TRIED TO KEEP DUPLICATION AT A MINIMUM.

EARLY ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF THE GROWERS AND AGRICULTURAL WORKERS IN THE FRESNO AREA

Reported by: DAVID L. GREENBERG, RABBI OF TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL, FRESNO

Great strides have been made since the days of 1934 to improve the relationship between the migratory workers and the growers in the Fresno area. The evidence is found not only in labor relationships, but in the improvement of housing facilities, medical, recreational, and child care, as well as in the establishment of a living wage.

The newspapers files of 1934 and 1936 record the story of a problem which then seemed insurmountable but now has proved well on the way to solution because of an intelligent and open-minded approach to a study of the problem, by all parties concerned.

In 1934 the Clergy of the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths marshalled their forces to bring about a better understanding in the community between the workers and the growers, and a recognition of the factors involved, and the causes of the strife.

They realized that farmers were in distress. High taxes, poor markets, water shortages, insect pests, were some of the disturbing factors. Added to these were labor troubles, incident to a demand for labor costs. It is not surprising that men in those days did not always think calmly and clearly.

The harvest season brought to the valley a vast throng of migratory workers and their families at a time when wages were inadequate to insure the minimum standard of decent American living. They were existing, according to the record, in living quarters which constituted a physical and moral menace to themselves and the entire population of the Valley. They were subject to the prey of persons who were ready to capitalize on their predicament.

The Clergy issued a plea that living quarters for field workers and their families be improved; that the public, cooperating with governmental agencies, provide counsel and leadership for the labor group, so that they would not be compelled to depend on radical organizers; that the civil rights of all parties concerned should be rigidly preserved. This plea for self-discipline and open-minded understanding of a problem common to the interests of workers, growers and community, was the beginning of a slow but progressive approach towards a solution.

The progress is now seen in better housing, being provided in the agricultural areas for the migratory workers. Demonstrations in home-making to the workers, made possible through funds coming from private sources, have begun to alleviate the complaints of growers, that the workers when provided with good housing would destroy the property even when improved for their benefit. The growers have begun to erect child care centers and buildings for recreational and demonstration purposes. Church groups have expanded their efforts to provide religious services and cultural programs within the migratory camps. Private agencies have given money to carry out pilot projects to provide medical care and combat the

causes of malnutrition among the children of workers.

State and national agencies exercised a great deal of influence and help during the days of crisis, but the intelligent thinking of the growers, the workers and the impetus given by community interest, set many agencies and individuals to think of a positive approach to handling the problems of an agricultural economy depending upon migratory workers. Right leadership is responsible for the progress so evident in the year 1951. The vision and the cooperation that now exists must be the guiding spirit in tackling the problems which still exist and which are on the horizon of the future.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND THE LOCAL COMMITTEE

Reported by: MARY D. BROWN, CALIF. STATE SUPERVISOR FOR DIV.
OF HOME MISSIONS OF NAT'L COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Almost 30 years ago the Home Missions Council of North America (now the Division of Home Missions of the National Council of Churches of Christ) with the cooperation of the growers sent out missionary nurses to serve the migrant people who came into the San Joaquin Valley to harvest the cotton. These nurses were pioneers in the field of serving, not only in the realm of health but in carrying the message of the Christian Church and at the same time becoming interpreters to the community for these people. They helped others to realize that these thousands who came for so short a time and then moved on had the same feelings, hopes and needs as other people. There was hunger at times and need in the camps and the lay people of the community responded. Some shared food and clothing with those who were in need. Local women provided layettes for new born babies. Others volunteered their time and conducted child care centers for pre-school children while parents were in the fields.

The Second World War came and nurses were needed in the armed services. Gasoline was rationed and volunteer workers were forced to find service for others nearer at home. The Home Missions Council sent a community worker to fill the vacancy of the nurse. Her first responsibility was that of serving the migrant in whatever way she could to help provide those opportunities for community living which these people lost in the harvesting of the crop. Her second responsibility was to demonstrate to the community a program of action in which they could serve, for with so many thousands with sub-standard opportunities for true living it would take the combined efforts of everyone to help them find our American way of life.

The community worker wherever possible sought the help of the local agencies, the Welfare Department, the Red Cross, the County Health Department, the Agricultural Extension Service and gradually as they were able to extend their services in this area, she cooperated with them. As they took on their phase of the work it left her free to carry on other activities - boys and girls clubs - parent groups - recreation - the travelling library - and, of course, a religious ministry of visitation, counselling and services of worship. In 1949 when a committee was organized representing those agencies interested in the welfare of the migrant people the Home Missions Council was a part of that committee. Again, when the Rural Health and Education Committee was organized, the Division of Home Missions of the National Council of Churches represented the Protestant churches of the Fresno area and assumed the responsibility for a religious ministry, character building activities and a program of recreation.

As lay people from the churches went out to visit the program and to see the camps, they began to realize that one or two community workers among so many was but scratching the surface of human need and that the people were still not a part of the community. This resulted in the

organization of a lay committee who made a study and decided that the need was that of getting the local people themselves out to serve - to sponsor a club - to organize a Sunday School - and to help the migrant people to organize their own community program.

When churches are supposed to be in a summer slump and in the face of the Valley heat, they set out to raise \$7000 to employ a worker whose primary job would be that of putting the people of the church to work in volunteer service. Doctors, homemakers, teachers; ministers, a post-mistress, a school supervisor and others set to work. A doctor gave his vacation to it, sacrificing a cool retreat. Many drove miles and worked late in the evening and the first part of the mission was accomplished. The funds were raised and in cooperation with the Division of Home Missions, a staff member was secured who would put them to work.

This part of the program has just begun but already many more are finding friends. A postmistress and a teacher work together every Sunday afternoon in one camp visiting with adults and conducting a Sunday School for the children. Another goes out to help with a club program and some lay women spend an evening with a women's group from the camp. The people in the camp gain confidence in themselves and more and more assume responsibilities such as assistant in a child care program or chairman for a women's group.

Many more plans are under way for more community cooperation in helping these people find a more adequate way of life. A group of lay men now making plans to form a men's group in the camps. All this because the community realizes more and more that these folk of the camps will be settling and becoming a permanent part of this or some community. They need help, the same as all of us need help to find the resources for decent constructive living. The Christian community realizes that it is the responsibility of those who have, to help those who need. These lay people would help them to find good recreation; would help them to know how to seek the services of the other agencies in the field as they find need of them; would seek to help them find a way to meet their own problems through counselling, vocational and educational guidance; and above all would help them to find the inspiration and hope of the message of the Christian Church. This is the purpose of the people of the churches as through the Fresno Area Migrant Ministry, they work together with the National Council of Churches of Christ and in cooperation with the other agencies in the field of service to those agricultural people who harvest our crops.

FRESNO COUNTY COORDINATING COUNCIL

Reported by: MRS. I. H. TEILMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
PAST CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH DIVISION

The Health Division of Fresno County Coordinating Council was organized in the spring of 1948. All agencies and individuals interested in public health were asked to meet and present what they considered Fresno County's most urgent health problems. Heading every list was "Migrant Health". The Coordinating Council, as an organization, was unable to take an active part in the improvement of migrant health; first, because of lack of finances, and second, because the function of the Council is to get things done rather than to do them. It mobilizes the forces of professional skill and public opinion to get action when and where needed. Consequently, the first work of the Health Division was to educate public opinion as to the need, and work through such agencies as the County Department of Public Health and the Red Cross.

In the fall of 1949, some so-called nutritional deaths of infants brought the migrant health problem to a head. Governor Warren requested the State Department of Public Health to take the lead in calling together the various state and local agencies of the San Joaquin Valley in order to plan and put into action emergency relief measures. The local health department with the assistance and guidance of the State Department of Public Health organized and conducted child health conferences, and immunization clinics. The Red Cross conducted classes in home nursing and mother and baby care. The Agricultural Extension Service sent trained workers to the migrants' homes to try to teach them better methods in food preparation and to use the surplus foods that were distributed by the County Department of Social Welfare.

An inter-agency committee was formed which met weekly until March 1950. Here representatives of all groups came together to discuss their work and problems. It became evident that housing for the various projects was greatly needed. Cabins of workers were too small and not always too clean. Baby clinics and Home Nursing classes in such houses were not too successful.

The Health Chairman of the Governor's Committee on Children and Youth was greatly concerned about those migrant children. In discussing the migrant problem with a member of the Coordinating Council, she suggested that a project be planned and application for some foundation funds be made. This was just the spark that was needed to activate a small group that was concerned about the migrant problem but did not know how to jump the financial hurdle.

The members of the Youth Committee met first with representatives of the departments of health, education, and social welfare, and the Coordinating Council. Needs which had been evident previously to the inter-agency committee were discussed. It was decided that health centers, and custodial care of the children were the two most urgent

needs. First of all, adequate housing and equipment for the child health conferences were needed. Here the mothers would bring their pre-school children for immunization and information on how to keep them well. Also, in the same building would be held the prenatal and medical care clinics. Care of the children while the parents worked was another serious problem. Usually they were taken out to the cotton fields with the parents and either locked in the car or put out on the dirt. Occasionally they were left unattended in the cabins. Nurseries for the child under two years, and child care centers for those over two were other needs. In order to establish child care centers in agricultural areas, enabling legislation would have to be enacted.

In January 1951, a bill had been introduced into the State Legislature to continue the then existing child care centers. Without this bill passing, all state operated child care centers would cease. This legislation did not provide for any centers in agricultural areas. The committee as well as the Coordinating Council felt that the bill should be amended to include centers in agricultural areas. The Council sent letters to all the legislators, and also a personal representative to a committee hearing of the bill at the Legislature. Several of the Westside growers also went to Sacramento to use their influence. The bill passed which made child care centers possible in the migrant area.

Thus the project was planned. The next step was to educate the public as to the needs. This was taken as a project of the Coordinating Council. Following this was the enlargement of the committee in order to make it truly representative. It has been gradually expended until it now has representatives of the various official agencies of health, social welfare, education, State Youth Authority, Fresno State College, Red Cross, Coordinating Council, Medical Society, Council of Churches, clergy, businessmen, Agricultural Extension, wives of laborers, and growers. One of the large growers is chairman of the committee.

Last September the project was approved by the Rosenberg Foundation. Details of the various services will not be included in this report, as the various agencies providing the services will write their respective reports. The plan for group care of infants had to be temporarily dropped since it involved many problems, the greatest being financing. Plans for adult education and recreation were considered. These latter have been taken over by the Council of Churches and they have received funds from the churches and Fresno Community Chest.

Since the policy of the Rosenberg Foundation is to seed new projects, it becomes very important that the Coordinating Council, which represents many groups and agencies in the County, effectively educate public opinion, so that funds may be raised locally to carry on the project when foundation funds end.

INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE

REPORTED BY WILLIAM F. STEIN, M.D.
FRESNO COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

In the autumn of 1949, the citizens of Fresno and adjacent counties decided that some action should be taken relative to the health and welfare of the migrant agricultural workers. On the average, of the counties in San Joaquin Valley, Fresno County had a higher death rate among infants and children and a higher degree of illnesses, especially malnutrition and diarrhea. Shortly prior to the year 1949, the Fresno County Health Department sent an immunization team to these localities in the summer and fall for the purpose of immunizing this great group of migrants and lower level income group against communicable diseases.

This problem was discussed with the Health Department and the various volunteer and official agencies and it was decided to call a meeting on January 11, 1950. The director of the Fresno General Hospital, the County Superintendent of Schools, the Public Health Department, American Red Cross, Agricultural Extension Service, County Welfare Department, State Department of Employment and the Home Missions Council were invited to this conference. The problem of what to do with the agricultural migrants was presented. Each representative from the above named agencies was asked to discuss his interest, the possible contribution his organization could make and how to go about solving these problems, which before this time seemed unsurmountable. At first, it was decided to meet a portion of an afternoon each week. For the first time in the history of Fresno County, members of these various organiza-

tions became acquainted with each other's problems and what each could contribute. Representatives of the Health Coordinating Council of Fresno County became interested and were asked to join the group. The Valley Chamber of Commerce and a representative of the Cotton Growers' Association were also invited to attend these meetings. An effort was made to include every organization that might be interested in solving the problems facing these organizations and it was felt that concerted action dovetailing the various departments into one closely knit unit would be able to accomplish more than each group attacking the problem separately. This would prevent duplication of services and expenditures.

It was unanimously agreed that this group should have a designation and somebody ventured that it should be called the "Inter-Agency Committee." This group met with representatives from agricultural corporations and the large cotton growers. The problem was presented to these men who volunteered to provide facilities to which representatives of the migrant agricultural workers were invited for the purpose of presenting the use of the Inter-Agency Committee and their ideas and help in developing a plan of approach.

Agricultural committees were developed in each locality. These committees visited each home and asked each individual family with small children to attend these centers. A definite time was given for the operation of each community center. These centers provided county welfare health, agricultural extension, Red Cross, hospital and missionary services. Later, health centers were constructed by these growers from

personal funds. They were equipped with sewing machines, modern kitchens, refrigeration, heating, etc. Some developed small equipped playgrounds, rooms for rest periods, well baby clinics, first aid classes, homemaking services and those activities which might broaden the lives of these people, create an interest in their surroundings and assist in their becoming resourceful. In a way, this project may well be called an adult educational program. It can also be stated that a community spirit developed among people who lived in the same area and who previously had no community interest or activity. A result of this was a development of mutual individual assistance.

About this time committee meetings between the growers and agricultural workers were taking place. The incentive to this came from a team composed of the Agricultural Extension, American Red Cross, local County Department of Employment, the County Department of Education, Child Care Centers and County Health Department. Mutual problems were discussed with the land owners for the first time in the history of Fresno County.

A representative from the Governor's Youth Committee frequently visited the Rural Health and Education Committee meetings and suggested that the Rosenberg Foundation be approached relative to supplying assistance and funds for the purpose of demonstrating more fully the accomplishments and educational work which might be developed for the benefit of the migrant workers. \$22,000 was appropriated by the Rosenberg Foundation for this purpose. About this time, a chairman was chosen from among the group of interested people and officers were elected in order to produce a more satisfactory functional plan.

A contact was made with Dr. Neil J. Dau, Counselor for 6th District, California Medical Association. Dr. Dau lives in Fresno and knows many of the problems facing this group of people. He carefully considered the proposed clinic plan and he felt it was the right step to take. Dr. Dau discussed the plan with the Fresno County Medical Society and they agreed to help with the proposed clinics.

Some of the instruments and equipment needed in the clinics were purchased from funds granted by the Rosenberg Foundation. Resident Doctors from Fresno General Hospital and Fresno County Medical Society who specialize in Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Internal Medicine, staff these clinics.

As a result of this planning, there are medical, prenatal and well baby clinics in operation in these rural areas. First aid and classes in cooking, sewing and housekeeping are in progress, all helping to accomplish an Educational Renaissance never before thought of for the migrant agricultural worker. Many of these workers are becoming permanent residents of Fresno County.

CLINICS IN RURAL AREAS

Reported by: WALTER A. ROHLFING, M.D., DIRECTOR, FRESNO COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL

Unless specifically stated or written, the fact that Fresno County is larger than the State of Massachusetts is frequently ignored. Because of the distances involved, however, the care of Fresno County's indigent ill has been a problem since people began settling in the San Joaquin Valley. The old story of the horse-shoe nail causing the loss of the horse, the rider, the message and eventually the kingdom would certainly apply in the health problems that relate to people unable to travel great distances for want of a simple but early medical treatment. I know definitely of cases where children who could have been easily treated early in their illness went unattended simply because the trip to Fresno was too far. The procrastination and delay which resulted led to many serious illnesses costing many dollars in hospitalization, and in a few instances at least, led to the death of the patient.

I have been aware of this problem for only eight years but as early as two years ago presented a paper to a State Rural Health Conference outlining our hopes and prayers for the future. At that time we talked of mobile clinics that could take medicines and physicians directly to the individual unable to come to the doctor. It is a real thrill to now appreciate that we are on the threshold of a solution to these problems.

At the present time some four or five clinics are held in these outlying agricultural areas, and are held at hours in which the patient or members of the family can be taken, without too much effort, for medical attention. This plan should not be interpreted as an effort to help people who refuse to help themselves. It is simply impossible for a wage earner who picks cotton all day in order to support his family to give proper attention to the family's minor ills. He either does not own an automobile at all or if transportation can be arranged, must come to Fresno during hours when the regular County Hospital Clinics are open.

Since the start of the west side clinics which in some areas are held evenings, it is apparent that the migratory worker and the other agricultural workers are sincerely interested in their own welfare and that of their family. They have and will continue to derive the benefit of medical attention if it is available. Any physician will tell you that the future of medicine lies in preventative medicine and in public education. This program is a step in that direction, a step in the right direction, and a step so large that it can cover the length and width of the San Joaquin Valley and eventually perhaps solve health problems in other rural areas of America.

WELFARE DEPARTMENT PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
1944 to 1951

Reported by: GRANVILLE C. PEOPLES, CHIEF OF SPECIAL SERVICES, CO.
WELFARE DEPARTMENT

It is almost impossible to put agricultural workers in a separate category in discussing the various welfare services offered to the community. Fresno County is basically an agricultural community. As a result, the vast majority of our clients, whether they are aged persons receiving Old Age Security, the blind, or orphan children, come from an agricultural background.

However, the problems of the agricultural workers which have received so much attention the past few years are very definitely reflected in our General Relief Program. We will confine our remarks to a brief review of this particular program.

The General Relief Program is financed 100% by Fresno County tax funds. Most of the people aided by this program fall in a few special groups. They are: The aged non-citizen, the disabled adult who is not eligible for Old Age Security or other State and Federal programs, family cases involving temporary absence or disability of the wage earner, and the unemployed.

The "case loads" of the first three groups remain fairly constant. There is a gradual increase as the population increases and also some seasonal fluctuation. Drastic changes have occurred in the case loads of the unemployed. This is, perhaps, best shown by a look at the costs over the past seven years.

In 1944, the total expenditures for General Relief were \$76,649.00. Costs of the program increased steadily to \$645,000.00 in 1949, the year of greatest unemployment in this county. With the advent of the Korean conflict in 1950, costs decreased to \$450,000.00. It is anticipated that the decrease will continue since there is very little unemployment at this time.

Ordinarily, the Welfare Department does not assist the able bodied unemployed person. This applies to family groups if the wage earner is able to work. The demand for agricultural laborers varies a great deal during the year. During the winter (from late December to April) there is very little work available. During harvest season (August to December) the demand for workers is very strong. As a result thousands of harvest workers find themselves out of work early in the winter. Normally, they move on to other jobs in different parts of the state. Many workers save enough money to carry them over the slack seasons. Others find it necessary to appeal to the Welfare Department for aid.

When World War II ended and millions of men were discharged, the demand for public assistance began to increase. In 1946-1947 there was some unemployment during the winter season. This department gave food

to a limited number of families. We, also, noted a very definite increase in the number of applications for aid from the partially disabled persons who had been able to find employment during the war years.

During the winter of 1947-1948 unemployment was much more widespread. Applications increased to the point that the Welfare Department found it necessary to inaugurate a "work project" for the unemployed. Though this was on a rather small scale, we encountered numerous problems. We did learn some valuable lessons which helped us to handle larger problems in the next two years. The men worked on cleaning up a tree and shrub lined boulevard. They were paid in food orders rather than in cash.

In 1948-1949 our work project grew considerably. We had as many as 300 to 400 men working each week for two months or more. One project consisted of cleaning a large eucalyptus grove owned by the county. The men on this project cut hundreds of loads of firewood which were distributed to welfare clients. The men on this project were supervised by a young man working as a social worker in this department. Despite his lack of experience, this arrangement worked quite well. We found it necessary to borrow tools from the State Division of Forestry, trucks from the County Road Department, etc. Other groups of men worked on projects at the County Hospital, in the City Park, on Welfare Department grounds and buildings, school grounds, county roads, city streets and alleys, and on public housing grounds. We also had women on the work project. They were employed as nurses' helpers, kitchen help, etc. at the County Hospital.

Early in the 1949-1950 winter season it became obvious we could not handle this unemployment problem on the same plan that we had used the year before. We did not have the tools, supervisory employees, or work to handle the large numbers of people who needed aid. We contacted officials - city, school, county - throughout Fresno County and enlisted their help. A plan was worked out whereby any person needing assistance applied at the County Welfare Department. If eligible for aid, he was assigned to the project nearest his home. These local projects were set up and supervised by the school, town, etc. All approved projects were on public tax supported buildings or land. The Welfare Department then made payments for the work done. All payments were in the form of food orders either from the county commissary or from local stores. During this period, we had as many as 1500 men working at one time. About 3000 families (10,000 people) were assisted by the work project during this winter season.

We found that the requirement that a man work for the aid given did reduce the number of applications for aid. Many persons who applied for aid and were accepted failed to report for work. It was also interesting to note that 50% of the applications during this period were made by single persons or married couples with no children. During this winter we were able to secure surplus foods from the Federal Government to supplement the county assistance.

Since the outbreak of the Korean war, the Welfare Department has not been called on to provide aid, in any substantial amount, to unemployed

agricultural workers. We anticipate little need along these lines as long as the present international situation exists. However, we know that with the return of "normal" economic conditions will come the return of our migrant labor problem.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE WORK WITH AGRICULTURAL WORKERS' FAMILIES

Reported by: R. C. CROUCH, DIRECTOR, FRESNO CO. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

For many years the Agricultural Extension Service has recognized the need for education among agricultural workers' families and other rural families with low income. Lack of personnel made it impossible to undertake work with this group.

During the winter of 1949, Governor Warren called a conference to consider problems relating to the distressed condition of the families of agricultural workers in the San Joaquin Valley. As a result of the recommendations made by this conference, the Agriculture Extension Service was able to obtain financial assistance and to assign two Home Advisors to work with the families of farm workers in Madera, Merced, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern Counties. These Home Advisors were first assigned to disseminate information to the wives of farm workers on how to use surplus foods made available to them through the Welfare Department as a temporary measure to relieve their immediate distress. This was done essentially through volunteer workers, although the Home Advisors personally conducted some of the demonstrations.

In conducting this work 322 volunteer workers were trained at 22 training meetings. As directed, these volunteer workers held meetings with the wives of agricultural workers whose families were in distress and also personally assisted in making use of surplus foods. In some of the counties the Home Advisors worked in the schools, teaching the children about surplus foods with the idea the information would be taken home and used by their parents. In Fresno County and the other counties as well, the Home Advisors cooperated with other state, county and private agencies in furthering the welfare of these distressed families. In particular, they worked very closely with the Department of Public Health. It was during this winter of 1949 that a committee composed of the heads of various state, county and private agencies was formed. It was felt that all agencies involved in the work should be kept informed. It would seem that Fresno County's present Committee on Rural Health and Education is an outgrowth of this original group.

After the immediate crisis in 1949 concerning food for workers' families was over, the Home Advisors were asked to continue working with these people in order to determine what kind of Extension program could be developed to meet their needs. This involved a study of the agricultural workers' families, the level of teaching that must be done, what information was needed most, methods of teaching the women in groups, possibilities of adapting 4-H Club work for the children, and organization of people who were prepared to cooperate with the Extension Service in conducting an educational program. Detailed information obtained by these Home Advisors from actual experience is contained in a report made to a committee appointed by the Governor to survey the agriculture labor resources in the San Joaquin Valley. This report indicates a broad field in which much can be done to permanently improve conditions through Extension work.

During the winter of 1950 and 1951, at the suggestion of the Fresno County Public Health Department, some of the growers on the West side of the County became interested in providing buildings and facilities in or near labor camps which could be used by public and private agencies for service and educational purposes in meeting the needs of the families of agricultural workers. These buildings and facilities have been constructed and are in use on the following ranches: Calflax, J. E. O'Neill, Vista del Llano and Giffen. Although this service and educational program is still in the pioneering stage, these buildings have served well in making such a program possible.

During the winter of 1950-51 two Home Advisors were again employed for a period of six months to carry on the work initiated the previous year. Funds for the employment of these two Home Advisors were provided to the Extension Service by the Rosenberg Foundation. By that time it was obvious that if real progress was to be made, a Home Advisor would have to be employed full-time permanently in Fresno County. This matter was presented to the Board of Supervisors to provide the funds necessary to make such an appointment possible by the University of California. This appointment was made in January of 1952. The work of the Home Advisors with the agricultural workers' families in Fresno County is now a permanent project. The Home Advisors' work in the rural areas of Fresno County is made more effective because of the fine cooperation of personnel in the other agencies serving these people.

This work is generally under the coordination of the Fresno County Committee on Rural Health and Education. The Agriculture Extension Service will continue to cooperate fully in meeting the educational needs of the wives and families of farm workers in the county. Now that we have permanently the personnel, buildings and facilities our educational work can be extended to this group when only a few years ago they had very little, if any, educational opportunities.

THE WESTSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANS WITH AN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY

Reported by: MR. MARTIN P. GUNDERSON, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

The Westside School District, Five Points, California is not a rich one in that the assessed valuation per pupil is between \$6,000.00 and \$7,000.00. The school could be classified as nearly 100% migrant, if you used the definition of migrant as a person who does not own property in the school district. We have the children of three landowners in the school and they started two years ago. If we used the definition of a migrant as one who follows seasonal crops, then we are about 60% migrant.

There are eighteen large ranches in the school district, so to keep the ranchers informed and to get their backing, the town type meeting was held. The school board would set the date of the public meeting and write letters to the ranchers inviting them to attend. The full school program, buildings, lunches, and other phases would be explained. This is perhaps one reason why our program has been so successful.

The voters of the district on three elections have voted, without a dissenting vote, a tax rate of \$1.50 for the school, legal limit is 80¢. Twice they have voted with no dissenting votes, maximum bond issues and voted once to borrow \$850,000 from the State for extra school buildings. Again there were no dissenting votes. The school board has voted extra taxes for free school lunches for needy pupils, our free lunches run about 30% of our total lunches and last year were valued at \$4600.

The 1951 State Legislature made legal a special tax levy for operational expenses of child care centers. The Westside School Board voted for this special tax which made possible the first rural child Care Center in California. After one season of operation the school board has expressed interest in continuing the Calflax Child Care Center.

The district has been very social minded in the migrant problem and the needs of these people. A school nurse has been provided by Fresno County and a school doctor on one-half day a week basis, has been provided by the Westside School District. The school doctor is Gerald Hill, M.D. He is a man of outstanding ability and kindly understanding of the problem. He has given his time for a fee much smaller than he could have made had he remained in his own office. We all feel that his contribution has been more than that of a doctor, more like a father to the children.

RURAL CHILD CARE CENTERS
(Harvest Season - 1951-52)

Reported by: EDITH B. STOREY, DIRECTOR, CHILD CARE CENTERS
FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

As the summer of 1951 approached, it became more evident that Rural Child Care Centers would be part of the answer to help agricultural workers improve their living conditions. Concentrated work would need to be done if such a program could be put into operation: for instance, interested ranch owners would need to be located, legislation would need to be accomplished, and adequate housing would need to be provided. The program to provide Child Care Centers would of necessity be an educational program since neither ranch owners nor parents were acquainted with Child Care Centers.

Many steps were taken to enliven interest in Child Care Centers. Ranch owners and Camp Health Committees were invited to spend a day in the Fresno Child Care Centers. School Board members and District Superintendents were also invited to visit these established centers. Meetings of the Team members with Camp Health Committees, owners, and School Board members were held. State Department of Education officials were invited to meet with Committee members. Ranch owners made their appeals to the State Legislature for a bill to provide rural centers.

Finally in June 1951, a bill was passed in the California State Legislature which for the first time made it legal to establish rural centers. This same bill made it mandatory that the ranch owner furnish facilities if a center were to be provided. The County Health Department had already worked with several ranch owners and Health Centers had been established at the J. E. O'Neill ranch at Westside, at the Tom O'Neill ranch at Five Points, one was being planned for the Russell Giffen ranch at Huron and one was expected to be established in the Mendota area. The problem presented then was which owners would be interested in a Child Care Center.

After numerous meetings it was determined that neither the proposed Child Care Center at the Coit Camp near Mendota nor one on the J. E. O'Neill Ranch were possible for the 1951 cotton picking season.

On August 7, 1951, Mr. Tom O'Neill suggested that he had a machine shop building on his Calflax Ranch which he would be willing to convert into a Child Care Center if it were satisfactory. This building proved to be a large, former army barracks, which offered excellent possibilities for remodelling into a center. Therefore, it was decided to make use of this building as the first Pilot Experimental Child Care Center in a rural area in California.

Fortunately, the Westside School District, which would be responsible for the administration of the center, had already obtained permission from the State Department of Education to establish a center. In addition, since the establishment of a new center is very expensive, the district levied a Special Tax which the 1951 legislature also made legal to be

used for Child Care Centers. The School Board also applied to the Rosenberg Foundation for funds to help with operational expenses.

Since crop workers arrive shortly after the first of September, the need to open the center as quickly as possible was recognized, and plans for proposed building changes were immediately drawn up at the request of Mr. Tom O'Neill. A general contractor was then hired by Mr. O'Neill to convert the machine shop into a Child Care Center. The contractor worked closely with representatives of the Child Care Department and standard facilities needed for pre-school age children was suggested. A most satisfactory and colorful building evolved, with junior size toilets, low wash basins, a large play room with low pinning boards and adequate storage space, high windows cut lower so that small children could see out, a wonderful covered cement porch the full length of the building, a sleep room, a large sunny kitchen, linoleum covered floors throughout the building and furnaces to keep the building warm and cozy. This building and its furnishings are both a tribute to childhood and highly functional in operation.

As the building progressed, plans were being made for the equipment needed to complete the unit. The list based on the equipment used in the Fresno Child Care Centers, was proposed as essential to adequately care for 40 children. This list was presented to Mr. Martin Gunderson, Superintendent of the Westside School District. It was not used in its entirety, but tempered by the first year's experience in a rural area, it may act as a guide to other contemplated centers.

THE STAFF

Staff Members of the Calflax Child Care Center were, with the exception of the head teacher, all local women chosen from the Calflax, Five Points and Coalinga area. The Head Teacher, Miss Harriet Berger, was brought into the program because of her background in Child Care, Nursery and Parent Education.

On September 14, Mr. Martin Gunderson, District School Superintendent, and Miss Berger talked with applicants for staff positions. After the selections had been made, a period of intensive inservice training was begun. This pre-opening training consisted of:

- (a) day long visits in the Fresno Child Care Centers--with intensive guidance in the observation.
- (b) participation in the Red Cross Home Nursing class currently being taught.
- (c) three, two hour meetings at which time the principles of early childhood education were discussed.
- (d) participation in health committee meetings.
- (e) staff work consisting of preparing painting aprons, blankets and sheets for the center.
- (f) work at the center organizing and arranging play materials and discussing their use.

After the center was opened, inservice training continued. Informal staff meetings were an important means of discussing and presenting:

- (a) the "whys" of programming and planning program changes as needed.
- (b) individual children's needs.
- (c) ways of using materials.
- (d) directed reading in the literature of Early Childhood Education.

It should be noted here that it proved most successful to choose the staff members from the immediate area. Their familiarity with the problems peculiar to a rural area was invaluable, and with the in-service training program more than compensated for any lack of previous training in child care. Of special values were the facts that two members of the staff spoke Spanish and several had worked with the local Health Committee in various clinic activities.

OPERATION OF THE CENTER

The opening date of the Calflax Child Care Center was first announced as sometime between October first to sixth. Unfortunately building delays occurred and some of the sub-contractors did not complete their assignments on time. This necessitated several postponements of the opening date. Confusion resulted among the prospective clients who were already somewhat confused over Child Health Clinics and the Child Care Center.

Finally, however, with very short notice, the Open House was held on October 26th and the Center officially opened to care for children on Monday, October 29, 1951. Opening notices printed in Spanish and English were posted at the Post Office, local stores and nearby camps. From the Mexican Consul in Fresno came much needed help with the Spanish notice. Publicity was also given the opening through a Spanish radio broadcast originating in Fresno.

The delay in opening meant that by October 29th the first picking of cotton was well under way, and many of the originally contacted people had already moved to another area. This, and the newness of the program, in part accounted for the fact that only five children were in attendance the first day. Enrollment grew fairly steadily so long as good weather continued. By November 7 there were 15 children present. On this same date four children who had made application could not be admitted because of diarrhea. None of these children entered, but it should be noted that all of them were referred to the Health Clinics and they received medical treatment. By the end of the seventh week, there were twenty-one children enrolled and a peak attendance of twenty-one was reached late in December.

Attendance varied considerably and by early December, weather had become the major controlling factor. Heavy rains made picking impossible during the several days of each week. With reduced opportunities to work, families moved away from the area or found it difficult to pay even the low fee charged by the center (average 6½ per hour) and the children dropped out.

After and during each wet spell, staff members spent time in the camps explaining child care to new families. This afforded an opportunity to get acquainted with families. When illness was found, parents were referred to the health clinics.

It was found that particularly in the Mexican families, it was most important to talk with the father, and if he approved the decision, the children were entered in the center.

After each rainy period attendance again built up, each time with some new children. This pattern was followed until about the middle of January. At this point long rainy periods and heavy mud cut the picking down to about one day a week and the school district decided it would be advisable to close the center on January 31 with the intention of re-opening it on September 1, 1952 at the very beginning of the next cotton harvest.

During the Center's fourteen weeks of operation, there were 46 children enrolled in the center at various times. Of these 46, 13 were Mexican and 2 Filipino. This represented 26 families. Included in the enrollment at one time were two deaf mute children who adjusted easily to the routines of the center.

Eighteen of these children were brought by their parents from 3 to 10 miles (one way) to attend the center. In other cases it was lack of transportation that kept the children from coming.

It should be noted that the children who came to the center made remarkably rapid adjustments. In only one case was a child removed because on the third day he still cried upon arrival and departure from the center. Even he played happily for much of the day.

There were numerous reports of children crying to return to the center when their mothers stopped working. One brother and sister, aged 3 and 2 respectively, who lived nearby, returned to the center by themselves four or five times after their mother stopped working, and even arrived the day after the center closed and wanted to join the kindergarten group that was then housed in the center.

The head teacher who has worked with numerous groups of urban children found the youngsters unusually responsive to all the activities presented. The Mexican children in particular enjoyed all the Creative Arts activities, and would work for long periods of time with easel painting, clay and finger painting.

In every case there appeared to be a warm relationship between parents and children, and the parents' chief concern was to know that the children were happy at the Center. Children were brought to the center carefully scrubbed and dressed and in several cases new shoes were so precious that it was several days before the children were willing to take them off at naptime.

Because of the late start and the newness of the project there were never as many children as the center was set up to accomodate, but from the standpoint of building, staffing and progress of the children, the experiment was most satisfactory.

CONCURRENT ACTIVITY

(Areas where Child Care Centers were desired)

While definite plans were formulated and put into action on the Calflax Ranch, there were other areas where intense interest was evidenced for Child Care Centers. The Coit Health Committee which had given such wonderful inspiration in the Fall and early Spring of 1950-51 were most anxious to help plan a center. The School Board and District Superintendent, Mr. Lloyd Geist of Mendota, had contacted the State Department of Education and had obtained permission to establish a center. Keen interest is still apparent, but Mr. Frank Coit was unable during the summer of 1951 to construct a building.

During the late summer of 1951, while Calflax Center was being completed, the Mendota School District, in continuing interest in Child Care Center, attempted establishment of a center on the Bernal Giffen Ranch. Mr. Ed Evans, manager for Mr. Giffen, was much interested and several meetings were called to discuss the possibility of Child Care. Mr. Lloyd Geist, District Superintendent, stated that extra funds would be needed and that the School Board would request the funds from the Rosenberg Foundation. At this date, a special tax could not be levied. Mr. Giffen promised \$5,000.00 toward a building--either new or remodeled. However, time again entered the picture and every possible site was considered. Neighbors were invited to make contributions toward a building. A letter was sent thirty-two owners nearby asking their help.

By this time, unfortunately, the season was well into harvest time and to be successful, the center would need to be ready for operation by early September or October. It was decided that all things considered, action should be delayed until some future time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

(After 14 weeks of operation of the Calflax Child Care Center)

1. To be of full value the centers should be open by September first so enrollment can be well built up before November rains start. The center should be in operation as soon as people arrive in the area for the first picking of cotton. Many of the parents, who did not wish to take their children to the field, had arranged with neighbors to care for their children before the center opened, and did not wish to change. In most cases reports indicated that this neighborhood care was more expensive than the fees charged at the center.
2. General written notices do little good in acquainting the public with the center. People must be contacted personally in the camps and have the program carefully explained to both the mother and father. Because of language and educational barriers, they find it very difficult to understand the written notices and easily become confused between a Health Center and a Child Care Center.
3. Personal visits in camps by staff members who understand the program and one of whom speaks Spanish brought the greatest results. Often more than one visit is required. Parents are most apt to come to the center if an actual application is taken or if they are taken to

see the center. They seemed to find it hard to believe that the center was meant for them, and when they came to the center by themselves were very shy and needed to be quickly put at ease by someone who spoke their language.

4. The County Health Nurses were not able to do too much this first year in bringing parents to the Center since they were also working on getting these same people to use the prenatal, well baby and medical clinics. Most of the parents didn't understand that they were talking about two different facilities.
5. The program would be greatly facilitated if camp bosses could be convinced to discourage parents from bringing children to the fields. This could only be done convincingly if there were several centers available so that almost all children needing care can be accepted.
6. Other centers should be located as near to workers' camps as possible so that the amount of travel required will be minimized.
7. One of the most common reasons that parents gave for not bringing children to the center was that they had another child that was too young to come, and if they needed to find other care for one child, they felt they should leave them all in one place or just take them along to the fields.
8. Care will need to be taken in setting up new centers to explain to school boards that because of the uncertainty of harvest and weather conditions and the mobility of the people, it will tend to be a more expensive program than urban child care. Adequate staffs will need to be available for the days of peak attendance, and good staffs can't be maintained without some certainty of work.

WESTSIDE CHILD CARE CENTER

M. P. Gunderson, Superintendent

February 27, 1957

The first rural child care center in California was opened on October 22, 1951, with Miss Harriet Berger as head teacher. The Calflax Ranch of Five Points furnished a beautiful building which was designed to meet the specifications of the state requirements.

Mrs. Edith Storey, head of the Fresno City Child Care Centers, gave invaluable help in organizing and getting the center started. The Rosenberg Foundation, through Mrs. Leslie Ganyard, gave grant of \$2200.00 to aid in the operation of the center.

During the first year of operation the center had a maximum enrollment of 33 children, which involved 24 families. On the whole the response to the center was very good, but there was a problem of fluctuating attendance, in that on rainy days the mothers did not work; so the attendance was down. This caused the cost per child to be very high as the staff was paid on a monthly basis.

The center opened again in September, 1952, with Mrs. Ardith Zamsky as head teacher. The peak enrollment for the year was 28 with 21 families involved. The enrollment was lower than the prior year and the problems seemed to be one of transportation. The distance necessary to travel to center from the various camps caused some families not to use the center.

In July of 1953 the Rosenberg Foundation gave a grant of \$8500.00 toward the purchase of a school bus which would aid in the transportation of the children. The center remained under the care of Mrs. Zamsky, with a bus to help with the transportation. The number of children enrolled was 59 with 37 families involved. The cost of operation was still high because it was necessary to have a separate kitchen and cook, also, matron service.

In 1954 the center was moved to the Westside Schoolground with Margaret Livingston as head teacher. This move made it possible to use the school cafeteria for meals and the school custodial staff, thus cutting costs. During the year the center was used by 62 children with 41 families involved.

The center is still operating at the school this year and had a peak enrollment of 64 with 43 families involved.

I feel the center has been successful, teachers in the kindergarten notice that the children who have had experience in the child care center adjust much more quickly in kindergarten. Our present problem is one of space to care for the children.

HEALTH COMMITTEES IN RURAL AREAS

Reported by: WINIFRED L. ERSKINE, DIRECTOR, NURSING SERVICES
FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The United States Public Health Service became very interested in the high incidence of diarrhea and deaths from diarrhea among infants and pre-school children of California's agricultural workers. In July 1950, a research project was started by the U.S.P.H.S. to continue for six months, with Dr. James Watt in charge. He utilized the services of the public health nurses to inform the agricultural workers of the research program and to explain to the parents the reason for his wanting to take rectal cultures of children under 10 years of age, following their immunization. It was the first time that Dr. Watt had used community and lay resources in his research work and in making his report of the project, he states it is the best method he has ever found in carrying on his work; the chief reason being that he leaves a large group of people better informed in the control of diarrhea among infants and small children.

In order to use lay people, a system of Health Committee Organization was worked out. The procedure was to locate one of the best-liked women in each of the camps, interest her in Health Department activities, and ask her to choose fifteen or twenty other women in the camp to form a public health committee. These committees were visited by the Public Health Nurse and given an understanding of County Health Department services that could be rendered in their camps. For instance, they were taught the use of our immunization record and program, and what they meant to the children in the control of the preventable communicable diseases. It was explained to them that the Public Health Nurse in their area could not do the educational work in their camps, but would have to rely on them to visit the families in each cabin, carry the story to them, advise them of the date and hour the immunization clinic was to be held in their camp. The nurse made one more visit to this committee before the clinics were held to help with some of the problems which may have been encountered. Often the committee chairman would provide a clinic headquarters in her own home. The members of the committee were taught how to assist the nurse in the clinic so that the nurse could be left free to look for children with handicaps, sick children, and expectant mothers. Their names and cabin numbers were recorded so that the nurse might visit the home later on to see that they were told of community resources to help them.

One of the most active Health Committees was the group of mothers on the Frank Coit Ranch near Mendota. They, as Committee Members, were very enthusiastic over possible medical and educational aid for their own little community - the ranch camp. They had experienced helping through the diarrhea survey and so were eager to promote social help from any agencies from the larger community of nearby Fresno. It was at this time that the Red Cross, the Agricultural Extension, the Child Care Centers and the County Health Department were invited to send some-one to the Health Committee meetings to explain their services.

During this time, California's Governor, Earl Warren, was also very concerned over conditions in agricultural areas. Several committees were

appointed and investigations resulted in the knowledge that infants and small children were taken out into the fields and left in cars, under cars, and in the fields with their nursing bottles, while flies crawled over both the children and their food. It was quite apparent that some resources such as day nurseries and child care centers were needed for these children, but it was felt that the desire for such service should come from the people themselves. We endeavored to locate the Public health committee showing the greatest interest and activity and decided that the committee at Frank Coit's camp, south of Mendota, demonstrated these qualities. We asked them if they would be interested in promoting nurseries and day care centers. They were a little timid at first to start a project of this kind, but decided they would like to try.

Through the fall of 1950 and early spring of 1951, the Coit Health Committee met regularly. They had definite plans for a Child Care Center and Mr. Frank Coit promised the land and the building for such a project. The District School Superintendent, Mr. Lloyd Goist, attended the meetings and his school board applied to the State Department of Education for the privilege of having a Child Care Center. As spring arrived, Mr. Coit decided that he would be unable to provide the center.

However, there were other areas which were equally interested in the work of Health Committees and Child Care and further services offered by Red Cross and Agricultural Extension. Because of interest evidenced by Mr. Tom O'Neill, a grower at Five Points, representatives from the Health Department approached him. Mr. O'Neill was very interested in doing something for the agricultural workers and after several meetings, set aside a large area in a barrack building that had formerly been used for apartments. His permanent employees constructed a wonderful clinic-making cabinets, patients' examining tables, desks, a modern kitchen for the agricultural extension, a classroom for the Red Cross, as well as space for the clinics that the Health Department were to conduct.

We next contacted Mr. J. E. O'Neill who also has a large acreage. Mr. J. E. O'Neill gave us a large barrack building to be equipped as Mr. T. L. O'Neill has done.

Next, we talked to Mr. Russell Giffen of Huron. Mr. Giffen gave us a large barrack building and equipped it with everything that was necessary for this team to use.

During the summer of 1951, Mr. Tom O'Neill gave a large barrack building that he had used for a fire house and carpenter shop, to be reconverted into a child care center. The child care center is beautifully built, one of the nicest in California, and the first rural child care center in California. It can readily be seen that thousands of dollars have been invested in buildings and equipment for health and educational programs. The Westside Growers Association at Firebaugh has provided clinic facilities for the County Health Department for a number of years. This is still being used.

The Health Department now worked with the Clayton-Anderson growers and asked them to provide clinic facilities about 15 miles south of Mendota where there are very large labor camps and no community buildings. The first clinic was held in this building on February 14, 1952.

The Fresno County Health Department did not budget for services of this kind in 1951 and if clinics were to be provided in the centers given by the growers, outside funds must be obtained. Mrs. Hubert Wyckoff, a member of the Governor's Youth Committee and a social worker, suggested that the Fresno County Health and Education Committee, of which Mr. O'Neill had been made Chairman, approached the Rosenberg Foundation for funds. After carefully preparing its program and those costs for clinic service, the Rosenberg Foundation granted the committee \$22,000 to carry on the medical and nursing services for one year, with the provision that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors become acquainted with the program and consider taking this on as a responsibility of Fresno County. The funds were turned over to us in October 1951. Our first clinics were held in November 1951.

We now have clinics at: Westside, Huron, Calflax, Firebaugh, Mendota-Vista del Llano, and Cantua Creek.

In the beginning, we had very few patients at the clinics, but as the information circulated among the camps, our clinic attendance has been increased tremendously. Our County hospital tells us that only 50% of the mothers delivered in the hospital have medical supervision before delivery. We hope to find as many of these expectant mothers as possible and see that they have medical care in these clinics. A record system has been developed which will provide the hospital with reports of each patient as they are seen at the clinics, so that the obstetrician delivering the mother will know what care she has received.

NOTES FROM PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE ON ORGANIZATION OF HEALTH COMMITTEE AT COIT RANCH

Reported by: CATHERINE RONEY, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE, MENDOTA AREA

In the spring of 1950, plans were made in the Health Department to attempt to organize lay committees through which the public health nurses might carry on a health program on the westside of Fresno County.

In the Mendota area, it appeared that the best opportunity for gathering together a group of women was to be found on the Coit Ranch, Inc. With this in mind, the public health nurse called at the office on the Coit Ranch and talked with the secretary who was familiar with the women living in the camps. She suggested several names of women whose husbands had worked on the ranch for several years. The nurse made individual home calls on these women, some six in number, and explained to them that the Health Department was interested in giving some service to the people who live so far from Fresno. Would they be interested in having an immunization program for the pre-school children scheduled for their ranch within the next few months? If so, would they be willing to meet in a group to plan the best way to carry out such a program of immunization? A meeting date was set and the women gathered at the home of Mrs. Alvin Davis.

The nurse explained the reason for having the pre-school children immunized. It was recognized that the nearest place to which they might go for immunization was to the Mendota Child Health Conference, which is eight miles away, or into Fresno, some 40 miles away, to the Saturday morning clinics held in the Health Dept. Since the Child Health Conferences take children only by appointment, such a clinic would be swamped if all the pre-school children from this ranch were brought in for immunization. The camp manager offered the use of an empty cabin for the clinic. The women decided to make a door-to-door canvas within the camp to acquaint all those who lived in the camp with the plan of giving immunization injections to the children under school age.

On the day of the immunization clinic, the women assisted by helping the nurses with the filling out of the cards and controlling the flow of children into the doctor's room. After the immunization was completed, the group gathered again at the home of Mrs. Davis, and Dr. Gutelius talked with them concerning our need for help in gathering histories for the diarrhea survey which was being done in the county by the United States Public Health Service. The women consented to help with these histories. Further meetings were held and the group was slowly welded into a working committee. They elected Mrs. Elizabeth Davis, Chairman; Mrs. Hilda Stewart, Alternate; Mrs. Pauline Coursey, Secretary; and Mrs. Betty Young, Alternate.

In addition to the immunization clinics, and the home visiting by the committee, there were other services of the Health Department in which they cooperated. A tuberculosis mobile unit came to the camp and x-rayed all those living within the camp. They had been interested through the Public Health Committee.

In subsequent meetings with these people and as they were drawn to discuss their problems within the camp, it was recognized that some type

of child care was necessary to keep the children out of the fields as well as providing supervised play and care. The parents showed a need for further knowledge in normal child growth and development. At the same time, there was a growing awareness among other groups within the county of this same need. The possibility for a rural child care center was discussed within the Health Department. The idea was then taken to the Health Committee and they became very enthusiastic about the plan. The ranch owner, Mr. Frank Coit, was invited to attend the Health Committee meetings. Other persons trained in child care work from Fresno County, from the State Department, and representatives of the Department of Education were invited to attend meetings to discuss plans for a child care center.

As we studied the methods in which a child care center could be provided, it necessarily included representatives from other agencies such as the local school district, the State Director of Child Care Centers, the Agricultural Extension, the State Department of Social Welfare, the Fresno County Department of Social Welfare. These women had never functioned in this capacity before. There had been no social intercourse in this camp, no community feeling of responsibility, until this committee was organized. They all seemed to develop a different concept about their relationship to each other and to the grower. The grower was very happy to have this opportunity for the women to develop an interest and pride in their camp and he fostered the meetings and many of the meetings were held in his home.

During the year 1951, we progressed to the point where the grower had purchased the materials to build a community center which would include a child care center, but due to financial reasons, has not been able to construct the building as yet, but fully intends to do it at a later date.

All agencies participating in this agricultural camp gained a great deal of knowledge about the needs of those living in agricultural camps and were able to use this knowledge in developing other public health committees in other camps in the agricultural area in Fresno County.

PLAN USED FOR ORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES FOR
SUMMER IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM - 1950

Reported by: DOROTHY PIPER, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE,
CALFLAX - HURON AREA

O'Neill Camp No. III - Five Points
(Mexican Camp - Approx. 40-50 Families)

-- CAMP COMMITTEE --

Public Health Nurse visited about five Mexican mothers (she knew before) and explained plan for Immunization Program in the camp and asked their help in forming a committee of mothers in the camp to help with this program. Arrangements were made and time set for a meeting with mothers in one of the cabins in about a week. These women were to get others to come to the meeting also.

1st Meeting - Held in cabin of one of the mothers.

Number present: 9

Explained program and importance of immunization for children and explained briefly about whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus and smallpox. Asked for suggestion of where to hold immunization in camp and arranged for women to secure and have cabin ready.

Explained immunization cards and how they are to be filled out. Elected chairman of committee and women made plans for getting cards filled out and telling all the people in the camp about the immunization and when and where it was to be. Date set for next meeting with committee one week from 1st. Committee were to have cards filled out by then, etc.

2nd Meeting - Women did very well with cards, having contacted all the families and had cards ready for nurse.

At this meeting briefed women on what they would do at the clinic to help nurse and doctor such as:

- (1) Help with children
- (2) Help stamp cards and keep in order
- (3) Fill out cards for any missed, etc.

Also discussed at this meeting, plans for keeping committee active for other health problems arising in camp, such as case finding, sanitation, etc.

1st Immunization - Approximately 50 children immunized. Women helped very well and seemed interested and willing. Difficult to keep committee active though because of families moving frequently and also lack of sufficient time to spend with them. However, a nucleus of women remain in camp and are a great help to nurse with specific problems in that camp. These women are members of the present large Westside Health Committee and are representatives of their

camp. Similar committees were formed in all the other camp immunizations, and these are in turn members of the now existing large committee representing all ranches in area.

PROCEDURE FOLLOWED FOR ORGANIZATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
COMMITTEE IN CALFLAX COMMUNITY

Reported by: DOROTHY PIPER, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE,
CALFLAX-HURON AREA

-- COMMUNITY COMMITTEES --

General information concerning locality, Health Center to be started, and need for community support to carry on a successful health program:

The Health Center to be started on the Calflax Ranch would serve the people living and working on approximately eight large ranches - with approximately 25 agriculture labor camps in the area. In order to carry on the functions and to secure and give the needed health services to the people of the area, it was necessary to have community support in the form of an active and interested group in the community.

The Public Health Nurse in this area, therefore, had to create community interest and support and lay the foundation for starting a Community Health Committee. The Public Health Nurse first visited the women in camps of the area who had helped with health programs by serving on the small camp committees organized before for camp immunization programs, etc.

These women, consisting of white, Mexican and Negro mothers, were visited and the proposed health center and health program were explained to them. They were invited to attend the first meeting to be held on January 31, 1951 to discuss plans for organizing a permanent community health group. These women were also asked to invite anyone to come with them who was interested in the program.

The Public Health Nurse also visited women in the community representative of all types of workers on the ranches, such as irrigators, tractor drivers, foremen etc. and invited them to the meeting and asked each of them to tell others about it and invite them to the meeting.

1st Meeting - Held on Calflax Ranch

Sixteen women were present, representative of all economic groups and all nationality groups in the area.

At the first meeting, the Public Health Nurses explained the purpose of the meeting and the proposed program of Health Services as it was known at that time--mainly, the building that was to be made available by Mrs. O'Neill, the services that could be obtained immediately (Well Baby Clinic) and the need for an active Health Committee of interested people in the community in order that the program be successful.

The proposed program was met with sincere enthusiasm by the women present. Many stated they had long wanted such a Health Program in the area and certainly understood the need for it. General discussion followed, out of which several things developed:

1. Plans for women to decorate the building - curtains, paints, toys, etc.
2. Requests for other Health Services besides the Well Baby Clinic, such as X-ray survey, prenatal clinics, etc.
3. Plans for next meeting in one week, at which time they would elect officers and have a workshop (Re: functions of volunteers at the Well Baby Clinic, which was to be started as soon as the building was ready.)

2nd Meeting - February 1, 1951

Number of women present: 12

Plans were made for decorating building.

Officers elected were: General Chairman; Recorder; Chairman of Well Baby Clinic.

Functions of volunteers at Well Baby Clinics were given by the Public Health Nurse, following which the Committee volunteered for the specific jobs of:

- (1) Hostess
- (2) Doctor's Assistant
- (3) Weigh and Measure Babies
- (4) Interpreter
- (5) Playroom Supervisor

These functions at the Well Baby Clinic are all on a volunteer basis, and they arranged for five to work in the morning and five others in the afternoon.

The date for the first baby clinic was set for February 26th. The women worked very hard to get the curtains and play room ready, etc. in time for the first clinic. It was very gratifying and thrilling for the nurse to see these women take hold of the program and its problems and work practically from the beginning, giving of their time and effort in order that it might succeed and serve the much needed health services of the community.

This community group then had several more meetings before the first clinic, without the nurse being present, to finish preparations for the opening day. They also chose the name of "Calfax Health Center" for the building and "Calfax Health Committee" for their group.

They decided they would meet regularly once a month to discuss present programs and future ones.

1st Well Baby Clinic - February 26, 1951

25 babies were seen by the doctor and nurse. The volunteers did a splendid job in their various functions.

The Well Baby Clinics have continued each month, with some months as many as 65 babies being seen. The women are very proud of the success of this Clinic and are now beginning to see the results of good medical supervision for well babies to keep them well.

The Health Committee was not content to stop with the Tell Baby Clinic, and so they have been active in securing and assisting with a number of other Health Services for their area.

The X-ray survey in May of 1951 is one of the interesting programs for which they worked hard. The women elected a chairman for this program. They divided the area into sections and made house-to-house canvassing regarding the x-ray survey--explaining the need for x-raying the people. They contacted ranch owners, managers, foremen, etc. and arranged for transportation for the people to the X-ray Unit--making it possible for the men to be brought in from the fields in trucks, etc.

The day the X-ray trailer was out in their area (at their request), the women helped with the cards, translating, etc. Approximately 500 adults were x-rayed at this survey.

Prompt follow-up by the Public Health Department of all suspicious findings was done so that all were either placed under P.H.D. care or Fresno General Hospital for further follow-up.

When the Child Care Center was started in this area, this Committee was active in its progress and assisted in many ways -- by telling families about the Center, after first understanding it themselves by going into Fresno to visit the ones there, and by inviting to their meeting professional people in that field to explain it to them with the aid of a movie.

Some of the women went to work in the Child Care Center when it was started, thus saving the director worries about getting help from Fresno.

When the Prenatal and Medical Clinics were started in October 1951, the members of this Committee arranged for volunteer workers for these clinics, thus giving valuable assistance to the doctor and nurse and freeing their time for more care for the patient. Some of these mothers would work all day and then attend clinic at night in a voluntary capacity.

The above is merely a few of the highlights of the work that has been done by this Committee, of the service they have rendered the people of the area, and the help they have given the County agencies participating in the complete program.

They have aided in the Red Cross services, Agricultural Extension services, helped deliver food and clothing to needy families, etc.

This Committee has had its problems from time to time, such as members moving away, having babies, going to work, but they are continually seeking new members to draw into the program.

They are now planning for their first year anniversary meeting with a special program, having invited a guest speaker from Fresno.

As Health Centers were made available by the growers in the Westside and Huron areas, similar committees were formed in those areas and they

are doing comparable work in their own area with the same enthusiasm and hard work.

The most recent and current program on which they are working is a combined program of the three areas for a large x-ray survey this spring. The three committees met together this month to discuss plans jointly for this program, having invited the Executive Secretary of the Fresno County Tuberculosis Association to the meeting to give them a better understanding of the problem of tuberculosis and to offer suggestions to them on how they can help solve this problem.

In conclusion, it can be said that the help and work which these Health Committees are giving to solve the health problems in their area is invaluable and of lasting service.

THE PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY ARE JOINING HANDS WITH THE VARIOUS AGENCIES OF THE COUNTY TO SOLVE A COMMON PROBLEM.

FRESNO CO. RED CROSS PARTICIPATING WITH THE RURAL HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Reported by: IRENE BROUSE, R.N., DIRECTOR, NURSING SERVICE,
AMERICAN RED CROSS, FRESNO CO. CHAPTER

For some years, Red Cross has been concerned with the problem of health education among the agricultural workers in San Joaquin Valley. Efforts have been made to organize classes in Home Nursing among the women in the camps, but the lack of suitable classroom space, difficulties in contacting the women and distances to travel discouraged all efforts.

An all-day trip was made by Red Cross personnel November 27, 1949 to survey the health and social conditions of the camps, and arrangements were made at that time to teach a class at Volk's Camp. Following is a report of this class which was sent to Pacific Area Office:

With the assistance of Miss Barbara Ridley, Home Missions Worker, a class was started in a cotton worker's camp 47 miles west of Fresno, and six women with five babies attended, so it was impossible to conduct the prescribed course. The camp had 2½ one-room cabins, out-door toilets, water outside, no facilities for shower, bath or laundry. It was arranged in two long rows of cabins with the toilets behind the second row. In front of each cabin was a boggy pool of greenish slime and the children played around the edges making mud pies and floating sticks. In the cabin next to the one used for a classroom were five children -- the oldest child, eight years of age, was in charge while the mother was out in the field picking cotton.

In the first lesson, the women were eager to learn and enjoyed making paper bags, discussing symptoms, handwashing and examining throats. The thermometer chart was used, but as most of them had babies in arms the handling and reading of the thermometers was postponed.

It was raining the second day allowing the men to take care of the children, so the women were able to attend and learn the taking of temperatures and care of thermometers. The final hour was given to a discussion of their problems and suggestions for meeting some of them, such as garbage disposal and a playground for the children. The babies that I saw were pale and fretful and were not getting vitamins C and D.

The third day was warm and many were in the fields with no one to care for the children, so I asked one mother to go around the camp and ask all of them to bring their children and come for a consultation. I talked to each one on baby care and feedings, and distributed vitamins C and D and Infant Care pamphlets procured from the Public Health Department to 10 mothers. The camp was about to be closed, as the farm work ended and many families moving on south, so no further classes were given there. Instructors are needed to teach the value of cleanliness in controlling communicable diseases, feeding and care of babies and children and general health education to the agricultural workers and families.

During the next year, Red Cross cooperated with local relief organizations in the distribution of surplus foods and fat collection for the unemployed migrant workers. One instructor, a member of the Mennonite Missions, taught classes in Home Care of the Sick under very difficult conditions in camps around Cantua and Huron. Benches were used for beds, water was carried from outside faucets, and few certificates were awarded because of the migratory habits of the members of the classes.

When a health committee was organized by the Public Health Nursing Service at the Coit Ranch, a class was recruited by the committee and a corner of the factory was used for a classroom. This class was taught under trying conditions in a corner of a factory at the Coit Ranch using the factory tables and stools. These women brought their pre-school children with them and the children played in a corner of the factory. The women were most receptive and enthusiastic about the course and by the second lesson four of the class members had made cover-all aprons and taught the children the handwashing procedure and uses of paper bags.

This effort proved that cooperation of all health and social agencies, interest and provision of classroom space by ranch owners, and participation of the agricultural workers themselves was necessary for any effort to succeed or even to function.

The organization of the Rural Health and Education Committee in 1951 and the five health centers built by the ranch owners at Calfax and Westside made it possible to hold classes and prepare the women to assist the Public Health nurses in Well Baby Clinics and in establishing the child care center at Calfax.

During 1951, 14 courses in Home care of the Sick were taught at various centers and camps:

Cantua Camp #3 and #5 at Cantua Creek

Coit Ranch

Mendota

Calfax

Westside

Firebaugh

Tranquillity High School

Westside School

----- Total Enrolled: 174

----- Certificates Granted: 130

First aid classes are being taught in these centers and more are needed with the increased mechanization on the farms and frequency of serious highway accidents. The scarcity of doctors, hospitals, ambulances, and all medical facilities in these rural areas point up the great need for trained first aid personnel on each ranch.

An instructors training course is in progress to provide local instructors and two emergency first aid stations are to be opened -- one at Calfax and one at Cantua.

On many of these large ranches, the owners have private swimming pools and have generally offered the use of these pools for swimming and water safety classes for the benefit of the ranch workers and children.

Mr. Genderson, Principal at Westside School, gave full cooperation in organizing a class of eighth-grade girls, ages ranging from 14 to 16, who were taught Home Care of the Sick in the Westside Health Center.

The reports given by these school girls following the course were enthusiastic of its value to them, and plans are being made to include it in the curriculum next fall.

At Tranquillity High School, with attendance from an extensive area, three high school classes were taught Home Care of the Sick and the Home Economics teacher was given Instructor-Training so that it can be a continuing program in their Homemaking Department.

The response of the women to the Home Nursing Courses demonstrates the value of this knowledge in their everyday living, and the women have repeatedly urged that the courses be taught in the rural schools.

The Red Cross Nursing Service is endeavoring to recruit and train local and rural inactive nurses and experienced teachers, to teach home nursing in their communities. The cooperation of the Public Health Nurses in teaching these classes has been of inestimable help, but they cannot devote enough time to fill the need of classes over such an extensive area. It would seem that if the additional Health Centers and facilities provided by the growers were to be used fully, an itinerant instructor would be of valuable contribution in health education among these workers and mothers in this area.

CONCLUSIONS: RURAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 1952

THESE BRIEF SUMMARIES REPRESENT THE PRESENT STATUS OF AN "ON-GOING" PROGRAM OF EDUCATIONAL GUIDANCE IN A RURAL COMMUNITY. EACH AGENCY PLANS FOR CONTINUING ACTIVITIES AND HOPES FOR A HAPPIER FUTURE FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES. WITH RURAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS, THE GROWERS, AND PUBLIC AGENCIES UNITED IN EFFORT, THIS WORTHWHILE PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION.

RECORDER:
EDITH B. STOREY

TOM L. O'NEILL, CHAIRMAN
RURAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE